Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 GSA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EC

SUBJECT: EC NOTE VERBALE ON AUTOMOBILE ANTI-DUMPING

1. DEPUTY HEAD OF DELEGATION CURT HEIDENREICH CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY GLITMAN TO PRESENT THE FOLLOWING NOTE VERBALE ON THE CURRENT ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION OF AUTOMOBILE IMPORTS. BEGIN TEXT.

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THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND HAS THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE RECENT SUBMISSIONS TO THE UNITED STATES TREASURY, CLAIMING THAT VARIOUS FOREIGN MADE CARS ARE BEING SOLD IN THE UNITED STATES AT LESS THAN FAIR VALUE

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT ARTICLE 5(A) OF THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-DUMPING CODE PROVIDES THAT "INVESTIGATIONS SHALL NORMALLY BE INITIATED UPON A REQUEST ON BEHALF OF THE INDUSTRY AFFECTED." IN THE LIGHT OF THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "DOMESTIC INDUSTRY" IN ARTICLE 4 OF THE SAME CODE, NEITHER THE SUBMISSION OF CONGRESSMAN DENT, NOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS, CAN REASONABLY BE CONSIDERED AS HAVING BEEN MADE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY.

THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES HAVE IN RECENT YEARS CONSISTENTLY ASSURED THE COMMISSION THAT IT WAS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TREASURY TO INITIATE ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATIONS ONLY ON RECEIPT OF A COMPLAINT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE INDUSTRY CONCERNED. WERE THE POLICY NOW REVERSED, PARTICULARLY IN A CASE OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE AND COMPLEXITY, INVOLVING A MAJOR TRADITIONAL EUROPEAN EXPORT, THIS COULD NOT FAIL, IN THE COMMISSION'S VIEW, TO GIVE RISE TO DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH PARTNERS IN THE ONGOING MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, THE DELEGATION IS INSTRUCTED TO REQUEST THAT THE UNITED STATES TREASURY NOT INITIATE AN ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION INTO IMPORTS OF EUROPEAN AUTOMOBILES ON THE BASIS OF THE EXISTING SUBMISSIONS.

THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THE ASSURANCE OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

END TEXT.

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2. HEIDENREICH, IN PRESENTING THE NOTE, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE DIFFICULTIES EC FIRMS WOULD FACE DUE TO UNCERTAINTIES RESULTING FROM A PROTRACTED ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION. GLITMAN TOLD HEIDENREICH THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ANTI-DUMPING AND THAT WE WILL SEE THAT THE ARGUMENTATION PRESENTED IN THE NOTE VERBALE RECEIVES FULL CONSIDERATION AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS. INGERSOLL

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